

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF ILLINOIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT 525
JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE

1. Call to order
The Special Meeting of the Joliet Junior College Electoral Board Illinois Community College District #525 was held at Joliet Junior College, 1215 Houbolt Road, Joliet, IL. The meeting was called to order by Robert Wunderlich, Chairman of the Board at 12:00 p.m. on January 11, 2021. This meeting is being conducted pursuant to and in compliance with Governor Pritzker's Phase 4 Guidelines and applicable Executive Orders.
2. Roll Call
Electoral Board Present: ON-SITE
Bob Wunderlich
Alicia Morales arrived at 12:06 p.m.
VIRTUAL
Jake Mahalik
3. Public Comment
Seventeen public comments were received by President@jjc.edu email and were read by Chairman Wunderlich.

An email from Cynthia Lopez was read that said, "She is not fit to serve on the JJC Board." This email did not state who she was referring to.

An email from Dolores Hermanson was read that said, "I strenuously object to the consolidated election petitions of Maureen Broderick and Betty Washington as candidates for nomination to the office of Board Trustee for Joliet Junior College. Those that praise sedition have no place in our educational system. Please remove these candidates from the ballot as they are traitors and not fit for public office."

An email from Meggan Conroy was read that said, "Maureen Broderick is not fit to serve on the JJC board. As an educational institution JJC cannot allow a board member who seemingly threatened Biden supporters, cheered on an attack against a whole branch of the US government, and spreads lies and disinformation about the national tragedy that occurred on 1/6/2021. She needs to be removed from her duties effective immediately."

An email from Jim Nurczyk was read that said, "There is no place for people who threaten "turmoil" at JJC. Maureen Broderick is too extreme and I have included a screenshot of a FB conversation she had."

An email from Steven Smith was read that said, “Maureen Flanagan Broderick is NOT fit to be a JJC Board Trustee. I have seen comments made by Broderick on social media which were disturbing to say the least. She said that there was, "turmoil to hit on 1/20/21... be prepared you Biden supporters." She went on to spread lies and unfounded conspiracy theories that despite well-known Trump supporters live-streaming themselves conducting this attack on Congress that it was actually, "Buses of Antifa & Blm supporters brought in and escorted by the police. As an educational institution, JJC cannot allow a board member who seemingly threatened Biden supporters, apparently cheered on the attack against a whole branch of the US government, spreads lies and disinformation about the national tragedy which occurred on 1/6. As a nurse, I am demanding that she immediately be disqualified (or to her resign of her own volition) as a Trustee for her disturbing threatening comments and basic lack of empathy over the tragedy which occurred, and as a holder of a Masters of Nursing Education I demand the same result of her being someone who clearly lacks the commitment to the most basic of academic principles; intellectual honesty and veracity.”

An email from Haritha Moparthi was read said, “Dr. Miller, Maureen Flanagan Broderick is not fit to serve on the JJC Board. As an education institution, JJC cannot allow a board member who seemingly threatened Biden supporters, apparently cheered on the attack against Congress, and spread lies and disinformation about the national tragedy which occurred on January 6th. As a Will County resident, I object to her serving on the JJC Board.”

An email from Kristin Burda was read that said, “Dear President, I would like to express my deep concern for the statements posted on line by Maureen Broderick. While everyone is entitled to their own personal beliefs, it is alarming that someone connected to an educational institution would both appear to threaten Biden supporters as well as repeat statements that have no proof of accuracy. This is not someone that should have a voice in the local education in our community.”

An email from Samantha Zunich was read that said, “To whom it may concern, Maureen Flanagan Broderick is NOT fit to serve as a JJC Board Trustee. I have seen comments made by Broderick on social media which were disturbing to say the least. She said that there was, turmoil to hit on 1/20/21... be prepared you Biden supporters. She went on to spread lies and unfounded conspiracy theories that despite well-known Trump supporters live-streaming themselves conducting this attack on Congress that it was actually, Buses of Antifa & Blm brought in and escorted by the police. As an education institution, JJC cannot allow a board member who seemingly threatened Biden supporters, apparently cheered on the attack against a whole branch of the US government, and spreads lies and disinformation about the national tragedy which occurred on 1/6. As a concerned citizen, I am demanding that she immediately be disqualified as a Trustee for her disturbing threatening comments and basic lack of empathy over the tragedy which occurred. She clearly lacks the commitment to the most basic of academic principles; intellectual honesty and veracity. Thank you for your consideration.”

An email from Kristin Gassinsmith requesting time to speak was entered into the record by Chairman Wunderlich. The content stated that Ms. Broderick's son-in-law is a Capitol Police officer sharing information, and Chairman Wunderlich recognized it contained "basically the same thing as the last several."

An email from Jennifer Parrino was read that said, "Maureen Flanagan Broderick is NOT a good candidate for position on any board, let alone a board for an educational institution. I have seen the disturbing remarks this person has made on social media and would not be comfortable with her in any position of power or decision making. Please reconsider."

An email from Nancy Eichelberger was read that said, "These public comments among others make Ms. Broderick unfit to sit on the Board of Trustees of a fine educational institution like JJC. As taxpayers and retired career educators who have had great respect for the mission of the college for 50 years, we are confident you will agree. You are better than this. You must stand publicly against all that her comments represent. How can we trust this kind of contra-factual thinking with the power to make decisions related to education? Sincerely, retired JJC professor."

An email from Maggie Cavanaugh was read that said, "Hello, I feel it is not in the best interest of the community for someone like Maureen Broderick, who openly supports the recent coup attempt and various conspiracy theories thereabout, to be part of any educational board."

An email from Jean Mandella was read that said, "Doctor Mitchell, I am writing regarding your board member Maureen Broderick. I feel very strongly that she is unfit for to serve on the board of your institution, as she makes no effort to hide her far right extremist views. In a recent Facebook exchange she spreads conspiracy theories, disparages the BLM movement and blames Wednesday's attempted takeover of the Capitol building on Antifa and Democrats. In that exchange she states (quote) 'And turmoil to hit on 1/20/21... be prepared you Biden supporters'. While as a private citizen she is entitled to her opinions, however rooted in fantasy they may be. As an official representing your institution, she fans the flames of unrest and shows disdain for supporters of the legally elected new President. She should be removed."

An email from Margaret Palmasani was read that said, "Dr. Mitchell, I am writing to you as a resident of New Lenox a geographic area served by Joliet Junior College. I would like the JJC Board to take action to remove Trustee Maureen Flanagan for her recent false, politically incendiary, threatening, racist and fascist comments on Facebook. While we live in a democracy that enables freedom of speech, comments like the ones she posted defending the terrorist attack on our country's Capital Building and the elected officials who were gathered there, as well as thinly veiled threats to the supporters of the president-elect should be abhorrent for a trustee of your educational institution to utter and

swiftly condemned. Her comments also on BLM are symptomatic of White Supremacy and nationalism... intolerable for anyone to speak aloud, let alone a community college trustee. I know this is NOT a representation of the philosophy and culture of JJC, thus they and she must be unequivocally denounced. Her rhetoric on a social medium cannot be tolerated by a public institution and requires immediate expulsion from the JJC Board. Failure to do anything else conveys complicity and tacit approval by the Joliet Junior College President and School Board.”

An email from Liddy Hope was read that said, “I am writing to voice my concerns about Maureen Flanagan Broderick as a trustee for JJC. The role of trustee is an important one in our community, one that should be met with integrity, fair-mindedness and an open mind and heart. It has come my attention that Ms. Flanagan -Broderick has recently condoned the devastating events that recently transpired in our nation's capital publicly, she made her stance and beliefs about this event known via social media. In considering the vision, mission and values of JJC, Ms. Flanagan-Broderick's comments are in clear and direct violation of all of these. How then can she serve the community of JJC and Joliet if she stands in opposition to your mission and values? JJC lauds itself as an accessible space for folks to transform their lives and strengthen the community. By allowing this person to serve as a trustee, what exactly will you be transforming people into? To be clear, as an educator and voter I do not support Ms. Broderick as a trustee.”

An email from Janice Lewis was read that said, “For purposes of your meeting today on the objections to the consolidated election petition of Maureen Broderick, as a candidate for nomination to the office of Board of Trustee for Joliet Junior College, I would like to add my voice to say that I strongly oppose Ms. Broderick's nomination. She is not fit to serve on the JJC Board because of her reckless agreement with the disturbing, anti-American assault on our federal Capitol on January 6, 2021. She spread lies on social media that it was Antifa and BLM that actually caused it, and insinuated that there was more to come. As an education institution in-part supported by my tax dollars, I urge JJC to remove Ms. Broderick from nomination, specifically because she apparently has no problem threatening Biden supporters, cheered on the attack against an entire branch of the US government, and spreads lies and disinformation about the national tragedy that occurred that day. It is beyond reason that she should be allowed to represent this institution of higher learning when she does not hesitate to publicly promote acts against our democracy itself, with her extremist mindset.”

Dr. Mitchell asked if there were any phone comments and none were presented.

Trustee Broderick was provided an opportunity to respond to the public comments. “First and foremost, I am concerned about all of these messages that were sent in. 1. I never condoned anything that happened last Wednesday at all. My son-in-law is a Capitol Policeman, he’s a Capitol Cop, that was on the front

line. I was concerned and stated my concern that I was concerned about anything else would happen, not that I supported or threatened anyone, but that I was concerned because my son-in-law was on the front line in an endangerment and I was extremely concerned at the lack of police support there and the high level of concern I had for him because two Capitol Cops had passed away because of what had happened. So what was on Facebook has totally been misinterpreted. That I am a strong, strong supporter of the Capitol Cops and I am very upset at what happened at the Capitol. The statements that were there are being taken out of total context of what actually happened. It was on one person's Facebook page and apparently that one person went far beyond in stating more, not truth. I did not support what was going on and I want to make that clear to everyone that has heard those statements. That those are totally contrary because my concern fell on what more could happen and I am concerned as a United States citizen at what could happen to us moving forward if we don't have proper police coverage and proper coverage in the Capitol for anything that is going on further. Because my son and my daughter I feel are in jeopardy, son-in-law are in jeopardy because my daughter is six months pregnant and panicked because her husband was on the front line. That was my panic of concern.

Then I am going to ask you as the officials of the electoral board to please state all of the positions that are related to the electoral board for this meeting as to how many elected positions are open for JJC this coming election on April 6, 2021. Because I see on the webpage, that it shows three 6-year terms. But I think that is incorrect and I think that needs to be clarified. Because I think we are aware that Mr. Mike O'Connell had resigned and he had an unexpired term that was still open, that Betty Washington had filled one of those years, there was still more years to be completed. So I am going to put that out there so that we know what is fully open for the 4/6/2021 election. And with that, I say am in favor of all Americans and I do not like what is going on with the United States."

Chairman Wunderlich called for any further comments. Citizen Steve Smith asked if he could speak. He wanted to know, "If she was going to retract her statement about Antifa and Black Lives Matter being the ones responsible for the attack on Congress." Chairman Wunderlich advised a number of letters were received and that Mr. Smith's comment was read verbatim. Mr. Smith then chose not so speak further.

4. Appointment of Hearing Officer The Appointment of Hearing Officer Jim Harvey was moved by Trustee Morales and seconded by Trustee Mahalik. All approved.
5. Adoption of Rules Advised by Attorney Mario Carlasare regarding the adoption of rules. It was moved to adopt the same rules as a regular board meeting. This adoption was moved by Trustee Morales and seconded by Trustee Mahalik. All approved.

6. Scheduling for Case Number 2021-EB-1 Advised by Attorney Mario Carlasare that Hearing Officer Jim Harvey's preference would be for the afternoon of January 21 or January 22. Upon discussion, January 21 was recommended for the hearing in the afternoon. The time will be determined. All approved.
7. Scheduling for Case Number 2021-EB-2 Advised by Attorney Mario Carlasare that Hearing Officer Jim Harvey's preference would be for the afternoon of January 21 or January 22. Upon discussion, January 21 was recommended for the hearing in the afternoon. The time will be determined. All approved.
8. Recess of Adjournment Motion to adjourn at 12:21 p.m. was moved by Trustee Morales and seconded by Trustee Mahalik. All approved.